

## **EGPR ADVISORY GROUP**

### **September 4, 2002 Meeting Notes**

#### MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Baker, DeAnn	California State Association of Counties
Carrigg, Dan	League of California Cities
Cramblit, Andre	Northern California Indian Development Council
Finney, Tal	OPR
Frank, Tim	Sierra Club
George, Sande	American Planning Association
Geyer, Bill	Resource Landowners Coalition
Harrington, Brent	Regional Council of Rural Counties
Hime, Rex	California Business Properties Association
Lyon, Richard	California Building Industry Association
OPR staff	OPR
Reeb, Bob	Association of California Water Agencies
Reynolds, Eileen	California Association of Realtors
Selix, Rusty	California Association of Councils of Government
Smith, Catherine	California Special Districts Association
Szalay, Steven	California State Association of Counties

The following is a summary of the suggestions made by the EGPR Advisory Group on the process for development of the EGPR and substantive contents of the report.

#### PROCESS

- Distribute the California Rural Growth Strategy report (based on the Areias bill) to Advisory Group members – contains good identification of rural issues.
- Broadest public participation possible, done regionally, in cooperation with stakeholders.
- Include youth in public participation, including non-college-bound youth (working youth).
- Have leading academicians weigh in, planning students, other students in fields such as political science, agricultural, economics, etc.
- Give everyone plenty of advance time to prepare for meetings.
- Tap into existing forums for public to participate (eg. annual association conferences).
- Are there budget limitations to completing the report?
- OPR will complete the report within existing resources.

- What is the intended use of the final product? Do we do just what the law calls for or do we go beyond that?
  - Roadmap for the integrated state approach.
  - Will Office of Administrative Law (OAL) need to be involved? May depend on purpose and use of the EGPR.
- Proposed scope of the EGPR, as described today, goes far beyond “environmental” issues. The title may be misleading. Should we change the title of the final report to better capture what the end result will be?
- Hold town hall meetings – use public TV, Internet to link up people.
- CSAC has a video conference network (Route 58).
- How long do we have for public participation? How long to prepare the report? 12 months? 24 months? (this looks to be a 2 year process)
- Where does public participation start? Do we go in cold? Provide a written draft for the public to react? When/how do we identify alternatives? Need to plan very carefully for the public process.
- Put an advisory measure on State ballot to gauge public and Legislature buy-in, find out what the public wants/ thinks.
- Statute requires the Legislature to have a chance to comment before the Governor adopts EGPR.
- 1978 Executive Order (adopting the Urban Strategy) is still in effect. What are agencies doing to comply? What have they done/not done to implement the policies?
- One goal should be to ensure regular updates every 4 years. Would make it harder for agencies to ignore EGPR policies.
- Broaden the scope of the word “environment” beyond the natural environment: include social, economic and human environment. Need to challenge what “environmental” means.
- “Environment” has too narrow a meaning for many people.
- Need to discuss Horizontal verses Vertical broadening of the scope of the EGPR. (vertical meaning going beyond broad goals and policies and including things like objectives and implementation measures).
- Vertical expansion (including objectives, practices, etc.) may be more difficult and contentious.

- State agencies may implement the EGPR through their functional plans and infrastructure expenditures, but the EGPR might only set out the broader goals and policies.
- Urban Strategy was a first chapter in the process, but next chapter (rural strategy) never happened; Urban Strategy is only one piece of the whole picture.
- Other vertical relationships among various levels of government needs to be discussed (federal-state-local).
- Need to do a better job of seeing that state agencies use the document (implement the policies of the EGPR).
- Can OPR do a summary / analysis of how the 1978 Urban Strategy has been used/implemented by state agencies?
- Would be useful for everyone to get comments on the Urban Strategy from their organizations and constituencies.
- Place the Urban Strategy on-line.
- Develop an annotated version of Urban Strategy with everyone's comments.
- Need to have every potentially affected state agency provide comment on the Urban Strategy (how it was used, what they like about it, what they don't like).
- State agencies must be involved in the process of developing the next EGPR.
- OPR didn't intend Urban Strategy as the template for the next EGPR, but it is useful for analysis and to get agencies to think out of the box.
- Invite original authors of the Urban Strategy to speak so we can hear their views and learn their intent.
- Use 1997 California Rural Growth Strategy report as a scoping tool in addition to the 1978 Urban Strategy.

## CONTENT

- The EGPR statute outlines the purpose and minimum content of the report; what other issues/areas should be covered?
  - Environmental justice.

- Population growth and distribution – should we attempt to accommodate growth or manage it?
- What do you do about transition areas? Example: in areas where agriculture is declining and new economic development strategies need to be developed. What can we do to shore them up?
- Cultural resources, cultural diversity, and the integration of cultures (including non-traditional cultures- Russians, Armenians, etc.).
- Historic resources.
- Address state and local fiscal policies. Address fiscal policy relationship to land use. Make sure the two aren't contradictory.
- Teen pregnancy issue as it relates to population growth. Need to examine which aspects of the state's birth rate are unhealthy for the state.
- Women's economic empowerment.
- Housing – housing and homeownership opportunities for the growing population.
- Agriculture.
- Education and access to education.
- Rights of single fathers.
- Agriculture is not a subset of “natural resources” the way it is done in California.
- Job creation and economic opportunities for all Californians.
- Water supply and quality.
- Apply a "regional screen" over all the economic issues. Economies in California are regional.
- Economic development is the umbrella category for many issues:
  - Job creation
  - Workforce development
  - Education
  - Job retention
  - etc.
- Reduction of barriers to employment opportunities:
  - Living wage

- Childcare
- Transportation
- etc.
- Address basic development and infrastructure needs of rural areas including native communities.
- Need to address commercial
  - Forestry
  - Fishing
  - Tourism
- Rural sport and recreational resources and uses.
- High Speed Rail.
- Consider land ownership and ownership patterns. Public versus private ownership. Collaboration between private owners and public goals to improve stewardship of the land.
- Need to recognize regional variation rather than a statewide analysis across issues; this will result in more buy-in from stakeholders.
- Avoid a one-size-fits-all approach and develop a pluralistic approach that works for all California. Need to be consistent yet be pluralistic.
- Include concepts of cost, cost effectiveness, and cost efficiency.
- Address the full cost of environmental choices – All things have cost.
- When considering costs, it's a two-sided ledger. Consider cost of environmental services versus the value of environmental services.

#### HOUSEKEEPING and ACTION ITEMS

- OPR will gather dates and locations of each advisory group member organization's conferences (for public outreach purposes).
- OPR will distribute a rough report outline and timeline within the next couple of weeks.
- Advisory group members should send any additional ideas on process and content to Terry Roberts.
- The next meeting of the advisory group will be held in approximately 6 weeks. OPR will propose several alternative dates to the group.

- There is some concern about travel costs associated with meetings. OPR will explore possible use of phone call-in or video conferencing (Route 58 or Internet II).
- OPR will get feedback from state agencies prior to the next advisory group meeting.
- Per request, OPR will distribute copies of the *California Rural Growth Strategy* to the advisory group.
- OPR will distribute notes of today's meeting.